

Best Management Practices

For implementing Los Angeles County's Plastic and Paper Carryout Bag Ordinance

Eliminate the use of single use plastic carryout bags

- ✓ Discontinue all purchases of single use plastic carryout bags, and use up existing stock prior to effective date of Ordinance
- ✓ Monitor use of produce bags to ensure customers are not using produce bags in lieu of single use plastic carryout bags

Note the number of recyclable paper carryout bags provided

- ✓ Create a register button or scan card to record the number of recyclable paper carryout bags provided to customers
- ✓ Print the number of bags provided and total cost of paper bags on customer receipts
- ✓ Create a database to store recorded amount of paper bags provided and amount of monies collected for providing paper bags

Tips for effectively increasing your store's positive environmental impact

Implement energy efficiency technology particularly in relation to storage of cold and frozen foods

- ❖ Join the Environmental Protection Agency GreenChill Advanced Refrigeration Partnership

Train staff in promoting reusable bags and in efficient bagging techniques

- ❖ Develop staff training materials and conduct workshops
- ❖ Provide incentives for employees to participate in training workshops
- ❖ Have employees wear a button with environmental messages
- ❖ Eliminate unnecessary double-bagging and bagging of single or bulky items
- ❖ Fill bag to capacity, placing heavy items at the bottom and fragile items on top

Encourage usage of reusable bags

- ❖ Display reusable bag reminders (posters/banners) in parking lots or at store fronts
- ❖ Sell reusable bags near the checkout stand and other locations
- ❖ Display Public Service Announcements on monitors at checkout stands
- ❖ Ask each customer if they brought their reusable bags today
- ❖ Encourage customers to purchase reusable bags
- ❖ Provide reusable bags to customers, either for sale or at no charge
- ❖ Post a reusable bag reminder on single use paper bags
- ❖ Give a free reusable bag to customers who spend a specified amount at the store
- ❖ For stores with a per reusable bag credit, announce to customers how much they saved by utilizing reusable bags
- ❖ Reward customers who bring reusable bags and/or single use bags back to the store by providing reward points and/or store credit
- ❖ Donate the profits from reusable bag and/or paper bag sales to charities or schools to support environmental causes (such as litter prevention or wildlife protection)

Encourage recycling of single use plastic and paper bags

- ❖ Place recycling bins for single use plastic bags and paper bags in a visible and accessible location
- ❖ Donate the profits from such recycling to charities or schools to support environmental causes (such as litter prevention or wildlife protection)